

Collins Home- "Park Hill"  
Crockett, Houston County, Texas

HABS No. Tex-233

HABS  
TEX  
H3-CROC.V.

1-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District # 6 Tex 2

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Birdsell P. Briscoe, District Officer  
4301 Main Street, Houston, Texas

HABS

TEX

113 - C. 600. V

1-

COLLINS HOME "PARK HILL"  
Near Crockett, Houston County, Texas

Owner Tom Fain

Date of Erection 1854

Architect Unknown

Builder Unknown

Present Condition Good

Number of Stories One and one half

Other Existing Records unknown

Materials of Construction Frame. ~~This place is Texas roof.~~ Gables overhang front and back porches. Window in front gable. Colonial details kitchen close to house to form wing.

Additional Data:

A pleasant and unusual house that pretends to be only one story high and then surprises you into accepting a perfectly good second floor. The square columns across the front are in fine proportion and the arched opening with its charming balustrade in the rather high pediment are worth going several miles to see. Here is something new (and good) done to an old form that is worth copying.

Rev. Dec. 1, 36 T.H.W.

COLLINS HOUSE,

ORANGE, TEXAS

TEX.

113 - CROC.V

1 -

NAME

Tom Collins

DATE OF BIRTH

1854-1855

RELIGION

Not known

EDUCATION

Not known

PRESENT CONDITION

Excellent

NUMBER OF STORIES

1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$

OTHER HISTORICAL DATA

Materials of Construction House rests on solid crossed brick foundation; main sills 12 X 12 hewed oak; intermediate sills 2X12 heart of pine; Additional Data material, heart of pine.

As near as can be determined by old residents in this vicinity this house was erected in 1854 and 1855 with material hauled by ox cart from Houston, Texas. It is one of the outstanding land marks of the country, but strange to say, its history is extremely meagre. Such information as I have, was secured by an old Darky, Eph Geary, who was a servant on the place for 47 years and when the last of the Collins family (Mrs. Mary Douglass, daughter) died in 1925, Eph was given a farm off the estate where he lived until a month when he died of old age. The picturesque old place several legends, such as hants and mysterious deaths etc.

Sorry to have delayed so long in furnishing the scant information above, but I delayed in the hopes that I could find someone who was familiar with its history.

The undersigned is a retired Army Officer and has owned the place since 1930.

Thos. C. Fain

Thos. C. Fain,  
Lieut. Col. USA. Retired.

